

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 11 & 12, 2020



<https://beautyinthestill.files.wordpress.com/2013/02/rainstorm.jpg>

GRACIOUS GROWTH, BOUNTIFUL HARVEST

AS WE GATHER

Plants in God's good earth respond to the showers He sends, producing plants for pasture and crops for harvest. In the psalm, David says it is as if "the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy." It is all natural, and so is our producing fruit for God as His Word works through us. That God works through us sinners is all grace; if we but hear the Word and let the Spirit give us understanding, a bountiful harvest will follow. Jesus likens it to seeds producing yields of up to a hundredfold. But we are no mere plants, as Paul points out in the Epistle. Because we have been adopted by our heavenly Father, we are brothers and sisters of Christ, the children of God, calling out to Him, "Abba! Father!" Our growth in faith is indeed by the grace of God, and to Him belongs all the credit for the bountiful harvest He reaps through us.

PRESERVICE MUSIC "Canon in D" (Pachelbel, arr. Wolff)

545 WORD OF GOD, COME DOWN ON EARTH

- 1 Word of God, come down on earth,
Living rain from heav'n descending;
Touch our hearts and bring to birth
Faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere You;
Word made flesh, we long to hear You.
- 2 Word eternal, throned on high,
Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heav'n to die,
Crucified for our salvation,
Saving Word, the world restoring,
Speak to us, Your love outpouring.
- 3 Word that caused blind eyes to see,
Speak and heal our mortal blindness;
Deaf we are: our healer be;
Loose our tongues to tell Your kindness.
Be our Word in pity spoken,
Heal the world, by sin now broken.
- 4 Word that speaks God's tender love,
One with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above,
God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;
Word of life, with one bread feed us.

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MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH

Oh the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God. *Romans 11:33a*

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Isaiah 55:11–12; Psalm 32:5; 124:8; Matthew 13:23; Romans 8:16

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P In the today's Epistle, Paul reminds us that "the Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God." Let us therefore go to our gracious heavenly Father, confessing our sins.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P In the Old Testament Reading, God promises, "My word . . . shall not return to Me empty; it shall accomplish . . . and shall succeed."

C **But we do not trust You in all things. We have sinned in thought, word, and deed. Forgive us, heavenly Father.**

P Then God tells us, "You shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace."

C **But we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. Hear us, free us, and lead us in paths pleasing to You, heavenly Father.**

P In the Gospel, our Lord explains that "the one who hears the word and understands it . . . bears fruit." By the grace of God, we believe and understand that Jesus, the Word of God in the flesh, succeeded in destroying death and rising victorious for us. For His sake, God forgives us and uses us to bear fruit for Him. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. May the Word planted inside you produce a great harvest for our gracious Lord.

C **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 55:10–13

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹²For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the LORD, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Romans 8:12–17

¹²So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶The Spirit

himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SOLO "I'll Walk with God" (Webster/Brodzky) Karen Hassey

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, ⁶but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹He who has ears, let him hear. . . . ¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower: ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²³As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

893 SING TO THE LORD OF HARVEST

- 1 Sing to the Lord of harvest,
Sing songs of love and praise;
With joyful hearts and voices
Your alleluias raise.
By Him the rolling seasons
In fruitful order move;
Sing to the Lord of harvest
A joyous song of love.
- 2 God makes the clouds rain goodness,
The deserts bloom and spring,
The hills leap up in gladness,
The valleys laugh and sing.
God fills them with His fullness,
All things with large increase;
He crowns the year with blessing,
With plenty and with peace.

3 Bring to this sacred altar
The gifts His goodness gave,
The golden sheaves of harvest,
The souls Christ died to save.
Your hearts lay down before Him
When at His feet you fall,
And with your lives adore Him
Who gave His life for all.

SERMON “How can water do such great things?” Isaiah 55:10-13

CREED Saturday – Apostles’ Creed Sunday – Nicene Creed (*Creeds can be found on the screens.*)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition, please respond with the following:

P Lord, in your mercy,

G hear our prayer.

At the end of the prayer:

G Amen.

Saturday service please continue with the Lord’s Prayer & Benediction

+ SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

G And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

G We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

G It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 195

G Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav’n and earth are full of Thy glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LORD'S PRAYER

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 198

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

641 YOU SATISFY THE HUNGRY HEART

Refrain You satisfy the hungry heart
With gift of finest wheat.
Come give to us, O saving Lord,
The bread of life to eat.

1 As when the shepherd calls his sheep,
They know and heed his voice;
So when You call Your fam'ly, Lord,
We follow and rejoice. **Refrain**

2 With joyful lips we sing to You
Our praise and gratitude
That You should count us worthy, Lord,
To share this heav'nly food. **Refrain**

3 Is not the cup we bless and share
The blood of Christ outpoured?
Do not one cup, one loaf, declare
Our oneness in the Lord? **Refrain**

4 The myst'ry of Your presence, Lord,
No mortal tongue can tell:
Whom all the world cannot contain
Comes in our hearts to dwell. **Refrain**

5 You give Yourself to us, O Lord;
Then selfless let us be,
To serve each other in Your name
In truth and charity. **Refrain**

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POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift,
C and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith
toward You and in fervent love toward one another;

P through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- G** Amen.

921 ON WHAT HAS NOW BEEN SOWN

- 1 On what has now been sown
Thy blessing, Lord, bestow;
The pow'r is Thine alone
To make it sprout and grow.
Do Thou in grace the harvest raise,
And Thou alone shalt have the praise!
- 2 To Thee our wants are known,
From Thee are all our pow'rs;
Accept what is Thine own
And pardon what is ours.
Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive,
And to Thy Word a blessing give.
- 3 O grant that each of us,
Now met before Thee here,
May meet together thus
When Thou and Thine appear
And follow Thee to heav'n, our home.
E'en so, amen, Lord Jesus, come!

DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
- G** Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE “On What Has Now Been Sown” (arr. Ritter)

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Congregation at Prayer and Devotions for the Week

Invocation In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✠ , and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Introit (found on front page)

Catechism Review (found on front page)

Meditation: Portals of Prayer, www.lhm.org/dailydevotions, Other

Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday: Judges 7:1-23; Galatians 1:1-24
Monday: Judges 13:1-25; Galatians 2:1-21
Tuesday: Judges 14:1-20; Galatians 3:1-22
Wednesday: Judges 15:1-16:3; Galatians 3:23-4:11
Thursday: Judges 16:4-30; Galatians 4:12-31
Friday: 1 Samuel 1:1-20; Galatians 5:1-26
Saturday: 1 Samuel 1:21-2:17; Galatians 6:1-18

In Our Prayers This Week (as of Thursday morning)

Don, Thanksgiving	Al, health issues
David, cancer	Terri, Cancer
Larry, heart issues	Marilyn, recovering
Becky, back pain	Jean, health issues
Camilla, 6-year-old with brain cancer	Chris, sick
Jack, ongoing health issues	Denise, addictions
Debbie, recovering	Tim, recovering
Eunice, Health Issues	Jackie's mother
Kathy's mother	Jim, Alzheimer's
Roger, recovering	Vonna's mother
Lois, recovering	Bill, recovery
Brian, recovering from an accident	Jeanette
Sidney, granddaughter of Steinkes with medical issues	

For those in nursing homes, medical professionals, those whose employment is in question, and that the Lord would miraculously make all signs of this virus disappear so all may know it is by His merciful hand. For peace and humility to dwell in the hearts of the people of our land.

Our Savior Families: Jay & Marianne, Sally, Marvin, Adam, Steve & Janet, Nicole, Heide & her family, Fred & Sandy

Hymn of the Week "Sing to the Lord of Harvest" LSB 893

Collect (found on front page)

Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, Benediction